

Board of Selectmen
Minutes of 9/8/03

I. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Lloyd Sullivan at 7 p.m. There were present Jenifer Landman, Selectmen, Michael Pardue, Town Administrator and NormaJean Fowler, Recording Secretary.

II. Selectmen Items

A. Appointments to the Heritage Commission.

Mr. Sullivan discussed a letter received from Philip E. Wilson, the Chair of the North Hampton Planning Board, nominating Carolyn Brooks to serve the remainder of Peter Parker's term as a member of the Heritage Commission and Ruth Donais to serve the remainder of Penelope Kennedy's term as an alternative member to the Heritage Commission.

Ms. Landman stated that she knew both of these people and she felt that they both would be assets to the Heritage Commission. She stated that Carolyn Brooks was very active in the community and that Ruth Donais was dedicated to North Hampton and she felt they would both serve well on the Heritage Commission.

Mrs. Landman made a motion to accept the recommendation of Mr. Wilson to appoint Carolyn Brooks to serve as a member of the Heritage Commission and serve for the remainder of Peter Parker's term which ends in 2005 and to appoint Ruth Donais as an alternative to the Heritage Commission to serve the remainder of Penelope Kennedy's term which ends in 2004. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.

VOTED: Wilson to appoint Carolyn Brooks to serve as a member of the Heritage Commission and serve for the remainder of Peter Parker's term which ends in 2005 and to appoint Ruth Donais as an alternative to the Heritage Commission to serve the remainder of Penelope Kennedy's term which ends in 2004. 2-0

B. Increase in Veteran's Exemption from \$100.00 to \$300.00

Mr. Sullivan explained that the State has had this amount capped at \$100.00 and that they recently increased the amount to \$300.00. The Town voted two years ago to increase the amount to \$300.00 but never raised it because of the State cap.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to raise the Veteran's Exemption amount from \$100.00 to \$300.00. Ms. Landman seconded the motion for discussion. She questioned if the BoS had received word from the NHMA as to whether this could be done by vote of the

Selectmen or would there need to be an open hearing scheduled for this. Mr. Sullivan stated that preliminary data shows that this can be voted on by the BoS as long as the amount does not exceed the State limit.

Mr. Sullivan removed his motion and made a motion to increase the Veteran's Exemption amount from \$100.00 to \$300.00 under RSA72:28A contingent on the verification of authority from NHMA. Ms. Landman seconded the motion.

VOTED: To increase the Veteran's Exemption amount from \$100.00 to \$300.00 under RSA72:28A contingent on the verification of authority from NHMA.. 2-0.

C. Questions and Comments Related to the Above Topic Areas

Larry Miller had a question regarding the appointments of Carolyn Brooks and Ruth Donais. He was late in arriving at the meeting and asked if they had been approved. Ms. Landman stated that both appointments had been approved.

Ms. _____ asked how many people in the Town would be affected by the increase in the Veteran's Exemption. Mr. Sullivan stated that it was between 300-400 people. Ms. Landman went on to explain that in order to qualify the person seeking the exemption had to have served during war time and it applied only to the primary residence. She also explained that widows of Veteran's could apply for the exemption.

III. Administration/Business

Ms. Landman congratulated Bob Strout on his hard work regarding bringing the Town into compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

A. Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Pardue made his report to the Board. Issues discussed were as follows:

1. The first session of the Hostile Work Environment training was presented and was considered a success. The second session will be mainly for elected and appointed officials and those who were unable to attend the first session.
2. The Notice of Intent regarding the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System has been filed and approved by the U.S. D.E.P.
3. There is an increase in overtime in the Police Department due to a lengthy investigation performed on Labor Day weekend and the fact that two officers were out on leave for their honeymoons.

4. The hiring process for the Lieutenant is still ongoing with professional interviews tentatively scheduled for September 16 and 17.
5. Brenda McKenna is back as the Recreation Department Director. She will be working approximately 20 hours per week.
6. Bev David has given notice as Recreation Coordinator due to an increase in professional demands. She will be present her letter of resignation which will be given to the BoS at the meeting on September 22, 2003. Advertisements for her position will be posted as soon as possible.

B. Correspondence

Mr. Pardue presented a copy of a letter from the Seacoast Hospice thanking the Town for their donation.

C. Approval of Minutes

i. August 25, 2003 Open Session

Ms. Landman made a motion to accept the minutes of August 25, 2003 Open Session as amended. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.

VOTED: To accept both the Open Session minutes as amended for August 25, 2003. 2-0

D. Contract Services Agreement

Mr. Pardue explained that Howard Promer has never had a contract to do the assessing services for the Town. Mr. Pardue drafted a contract and reviewed it with Mr. Promer to make sure that it adequately covered the services Mr. Promer provided to the Town. Mr. Sullivan asked if the contract had been reviewed by Town counsel and Mr. Pardue stated that it had not. Mr. Sullivan also asked if Mr. Promer had a contract with the Town of Rye and Mr. Pardue stated that he did. Ms. Landman asked if our contract was similar to Rye's and Mr. Pardue stated that it was. Mr. Sullivan suggested that Town counsel review the contract and the issue would be tabled until the next meeting. None.

E. Veteran's Exemption

One Veteran's Exemption was presented but was found to have already been signed off on at a previous meeting.

F. Land Use Change Tax- Map 012 Lot 035

Mr. Sullivan stated that the tax change was 10% for taking land out of current use.

Ms. Landman was confused because both requests showed the same map and lot number.

Mr. Sullivan suggested tabling this issue until written explanation could be obtained.

G. Payroll

Payroll was reviewed and signed off on.

Ms. Landman questioned the \$78,000.00 paid to Aquarion. Mr. Sullivan explained that this was for the cost of the hydrants. He went on to explain that the billing is based on what the hydrants could pump during a catastrophic fire and that we pay whether we use the water or not.

H. Manifest

The manifest was signed off on.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board in open session, Ms. Landman made the motion to adjourn the open session and move into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. Open session adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

NormaJean Fowler
Recording Secretary